

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**RS23461C1**

Relating to genetic testing, this legislation creates a licensing system and licensing requirements for genetic counselors. The legislation provides a short title and definitions and defines the scope of practice for genetic counselors which includes interpreting family and medical histories to assess risk of disease, educating families about inheritance, genetic testing, disease management and prevention, and ensuring that genetic information is used appropriately in the delivery of medical care. Recognizing that genetic counseling profoundly affects the lives of people of the State of Idaho, it is the purpose of this Act to set standards of qualification, education, training and experience, and professional competence for those who engage in the practice of genetic counseling and to protect the public from unprofessional conduct by both unlicensed persons and persons licensed to practice genetic counseling.

FISCAL NOTE

There will be no fiscal impact on state or local funds. It is expected that approximately 70 individuals will apply for a license in Idaho. If the maximum allowable is utilized for application, license, and permit fees then projected total revenue will be \$70,000. However, it is expected that fees would be reduced beyond the first year especially if a surplus is available. In the first year expenses will include direct and indirect as well as startup costs which is estimated at \$8,000. Genetic counselors have a national board exam and therefore do not need the state to administer a licensing exam. The genetic counseling board will be three members and will not incur travel costs as all board members would be local and/or online meetings will be employed.

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